

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday January 19, 2006

10:00 am

Calvin Rampton Building, Large Conference Room

Attendance:

Doug Chandler (State, ITS)	Lance Peterson (Weber County)
Rick Bailey (San Juan County)	Juliette Dorsett (Murray City PD)
Robert Roth (Uintah County SO)	Andrew Archuleta (UT National Guard)
Floyd Ritter (State ITS)	Brent Ball (Summit County)
Patsy Winchester (Weber County SO)	Dave White (Qwest)
Dave Shopay (West Valley City)	Roger Anderson (Davis County SO)
Steve Carver (UTNG)	*Jim Farkas (L3 Com)
Tim Cornia (State, DPS)	*Bret Mills (Emery County)
Jeff Dial (St. George City)	*Glenn Murray (Tooele County)
Phil Bates (State DPS)	

**Teleconferenced*

I. Approval of Minutes

The December 15, 2005 minutes were approved without change.

II. Wireless Broadband Initiative

Doug Chandler noted that the new Wireless Broadband Initiative is posted on the UWIN website. Tim Cornia gave an update on where they're at in the process of gathering information. Boyd drafted an RFI that has not been released publicly yet, they just want to get input from people who might be interested in a strategic initiative that they might strike up on, to weigh in on the RFI. Not specifying on a technology or frequency at this point, they are just stating broadband wireless and mobile technology and just finding what's out there. Tim envisions that since Public Safety has such a large geographic presence that 4.9 GHz would be one of the technologies they would be interested in. Tim then explained what 4.9 GHz is.

Doug asked the room if anyone would be interested in this concept of mesh networking or participating in the evaluation. He then spoke a little more about mesh networking. Tim stated that we need to adopt open standards where we are not tied to using a particular company, for cost savings reason. Someone on the phone asked about the cost. Tim did not feel comfortable giving a price yet, that's why the draft is in place to go out and also to see what vendors are out there that would be interested.

The draft will be on the web anyone can respond to the RFI (first stage). The draft refers to any kind of mobile technology, 4.9 is not even mentioned. Licensing issues with the FCC were also discussed.

Boyd would appreciate any feedback. They would like to form an evaluation committee as the information comes back in. We need your "techy" people on this, those who understand meshing.

III. Cellular Coverage Improvements

Floyd Ritter has met with several agencies and cell phone companies recently to look at improving coverage along the I-70 corridor. Much of the area is in a “protected shed area” (you can not develop a site that can be seen from the highway). The BLM and the Forest Service are very supportive of and involved with this project. There was a meeting with carriers (Sprint, Verizon, Cingular, T-Mobile), Forest Service, BLM the State and UDOT. The reason for this meeting was to pull together the carriers, and the State and Federal Government to develop sites as a partner. Floyd has received written commitments from all the carriers except Cingular, but they have verbally committed. At the end of the month, participating agencies are going to take a field trip down that strip and establish where the sites should be established and get permission with the BLM and the Forest Service to develop those sites.

One other issue is that 90% of the possible sites have no power. West of Green River has no cellular coverage. The BLM and the Forest Service both agree that this is a Public Safety issue.

Doug Chandler asked if there is any interest from the board in getting some of the wireless carriers to improve their cellular coverage in certain areas of the State. Does anyone think that this organization (UWIN) would be interested in making a list, prioritizing that list, giving feedback to the wireless providers of where we would like to see more coverage available? People thought it would be a good avenue. Cingular thought that it would be useful. Floyd will draft a document with feedback from agencies.

IV. Region 41 Plan Update

Steve Proctor was unable to make the meeting, but asked Doug Chandler to pass along the latest information on the 700MHz Plan. The last adjacent state (New Mexico) has approved Utah Region 41, 700MHz plan. The entire plan, including the letters of concurrence from the surrounding regions, has been submitted to the FCC. Once approved by the FCC, Region 41 will have that spectrum available to them. To date, there are only two States that have approved plans, Southern California and Missouri.

V. Next Meeting

March 16, 2006, 10:00 am
Calvin Rampton Complex
UHP Large Conference Room
4501 S. 2700 W.
Salt Lake City

<http://uwin.utah.gov>